

Activity 12

Learning How to Imitate Sentences

Practice 1

In this practice you will learn how to analyze all the sentence parts of a model sentence and then imitate the model sentence by writing similar sentence parts. Below is a four-sentence paragraph from *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle. Underneath each model is a scrambled sentence imitation. Unscramble the sentence parts to match the model, and write out the complete sentence, correctly punctuated.

1. Model: Calvin and Meg walked carefully / across the vegetable garden, / picking their way through rows / of cabbages, beets, broccoli, and pumpkins.

Scrambled Imitation:

- a. of books, notebooks, loose pages, pens, and pencils
- b. sorting through the heap on the floor
- c. in the hallway
- d. Levon and James stood together

2. Model: Looming on their left / were the tall stalks of corn.

Scrambled Imitation:

- a. was the menacing shadow of their homeroom teacher
- b. appearing in a nearby doorway

3. Model: Ahead of them / was a small apple orchard / bounded by a stone wall, / and beyond this the woods / which they had walked that afternoon.

Scrambled Imitation:

- a. and scattered there the debris
- b. on the floor below them

- c. was Levon's bookbag
 - d. that he had dropped just seconds before
 - e. strewn open from the fall
4. Model: Calvin led the way to the wall, / and then sat there, / his red hair / shining silver in the moonlight, / his body / dappled with patterns from the tangle of branches.

Scrambled Imitation:

- a. and then knelt there
 - b. his face
 - c. Levon bent his body toward the floor
 - d. his hands
 - e. hidden from the stare of his teacher in the doorway
 - f. vacuuming the contents into the bookbag
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